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COUNTRY Greece/Yugoslavia

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SUBJECT Condition of Facilities in Yugoslav Free Zone in Salonika

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Buildings and other facilities:

1. The Yugoslav Free Zone, which is located within the limits of the Greek Free Zone, has an area of 94,000 square meters or 1,011,440 square feet, of which 430,000 square feet were under water; a portion of this area has been filled in. The entire land area is closed off by a 6-foot barbed wire fence.*
2. The Zone has a west mole which can now handle fully laden vessels up to 10,000 tons. It is in fairly good condition, and not in need of major repairs.
3. The small inner harbor is at present without docking facilities and is littered with sunken small craft and rotted wooden pier pilings.
4. The road which enters the Yugoslav Free Zone at 25th of October Street and leads directly to the west mole is in good condition and could be used by loaded trucks. In addition, the Zone has a system of railroad tracks and sidings which are at present in poor condition. There is not one complete continuous track nor rail bed, and the entire system is in dire need of complete overhauling and repair.
5. The outer, small pier (between the west mole and the harbor) is completely demolished.
6. There are two large warehouses at the west mole which are in very poor condition; the steel roof frame-work and walls still stand.
7. A large warehouse, located at the eastern end of the Zone, is completely demolished and only the stone floor remains.

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8. A silo is located northwest of the west mole, but it has been in disuse for years. The foundations of the silo are in good condition, but the upper structure is in need of repairs.
9. There are two smaller warehouses located next to the inner harbor; one is completely demolished, and the other is also in poor condition. Another warehouse, which was located in the center of the Zone along the roadway, is completely destroyed.
10. The Administration building and headquarters are located at the entrance, within the Zone area; these buildings are in excellent condition. There are several small warehouses behind the Administration building which were built by the German Army during the occupation and were used as stables; these buildings are all in good condition.
11. There are no modern facilities, such as loading and unloading cranes, within the Zone.

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12.

Personnel:

13. The treaty between Greece and Yugoslavia which set up the Free Zone specified that not more than 100 employees could be employed within the Zone by the Yugoslav Government.

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14. At the present time, the Free Zone is guarded by two Yugoslav nationals who live as caretakers with their families in the Administration building. These are Mihail Kristic (son of Konstantin) and Slobotan Kostic (son of Dusan).
15. On 13 May 1950, Vasso Touffa, a Yugoslav engineer from Kruseas, arrived in Salonika to undertake the directorship of the Yugoslav Free Zone, replacing Martin Kovacevic. An additional 50 employees were expected to arrive from Yugoslavia toward the end of 1950.

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